

with a parade and a declaration of "Brad Walker Day."

Corporal Walker has been an inspiration to many others as well. Recently, I had a discussion with Bert Caswell, a member of the Capitol Guide Service. Bert had met Brad at Walter Reed Medical Center and was truly moved by his story. That inspiration led Bert to write a poem that honors Corporal Walker. I enjoyed having the opportunity to read this poem and wanted to share this with the House of Representatives:

WALKING TALL

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

There's a calm before the storm . . .
Upon, battlefields of honor in hearts as worn . . .
All in souls of honor, as into the darkness their hearts of courage move on . . . where magnificence is born . . .
And when that battle is done . . .
Fine Men and Women of honor lie face down, living but their last most brilliant suns!
And then there are those ones, left behind with new battles begun . . . without arms and legs our sons . . .
As somehow their heart's must get up and walk again . . .
All in their pain and heartache, as their most splendid souls must somehow begin . . .
Telling them to get up and walk, as these inner voices of faith and courage so much has taught in the end!
Taught us all about the walk, the walk of life . . .
All in the kinds of battles we so chose to fight, all in these our darkest days of night . . .
All between dark and light, life and death . . . good and evil . . . as comes this battle, this their fine fight . . .
Is but their walk so burning bright . . .
Is but their walk of life, which brings such light . . . to everyone there so in sight . . .
Are all those steps they take, watching them . . . as all of our hearts so begin to break, all on this night . . .
And now upon this day, so seen . . .
Is but a fine United States Marine, Corporal Bradley J. Walker of Tennessee . . .
Who went off to war, who gave up his two fine legs all for our country tis of thee . . .
While, there in the face of death . . .
As he looked down to see no legs left, when he began his most heroic quest . . .
But, cheating death . . . as he began to walk . . . step by step . . . as his faith our world would bless . . .
As Brad, stands even taller on this day . . .
All in what his heart has now so conveyed, all in those new steps he has so made . . .
For Marines can do, and a heart of courage full can so teach so much too . . . all in courage's way!
All in our walk o life . . .
Will we walk tall, and with our souls so burn bright? Doing what is right!
As comes this night, Walking Tall . . . Corporal Bradley Walker this valiant knight . . .
Brad, The Toast of Tennessee . . .
One damn fine United States Marine . . .
And if I ever have a son, I but hope and pray he'd be like this one . . . Walking Tall like Bradley!

In honor of Corporal Bradley J. Walker, D Co., 4th Combat Engineer Battalion of White Pine Tennessee.

Madam Speaker, this is a fitting tribute to a fine young man who has sacrificed so much for his country, and I hope that the House will join me in honoring Corporal Walker for his service and thanking Bert Caswell for his tribute to this young man's service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO LIMA COMPANY

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. HOBSON. Madam Speaker, I request to submit this tribute in honor of the Lima Company of the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment based in my congressional district. The piece was written by Albert Caswell.

Rest! Rest our fine sons . . . Your war is now over . . . Your battle's begun . . . There's Company in Heaven . . . There's a new force to be found . . . There's a new band of 23 brothers, of so renown . . .

There's a new winged force of Angels, warriors in the Army of our Lord now . . . There's 22 Magnificent Marines and a Corpsman, who are all out in front, moving so forth out on the prowl . . .

Heading in a divine direction, to do a battle for our Lord . . . to fight the darkness, as it's the light they so ensure! The ones who so lived and so died for each other, in the darkest times of war . . . as where their great burdens bore. Who have now come back as Angels, in this the greatest of all force . . . listen on the wind, you'll hear their voices.

Once but our bravest and brightest, who were all once champions of right . . . there our United States Marines . . . Who were the finest of all sons our nation has seen, who so bravely left all their loved ones to do what must be done! While, strength in honor was but their most magnificent of themes, but willing to die for us and give up all their dreams.

Moments on this earth are but all we so have, to make a difference, to crush hearts . . . all in our shortest of life paths. To grab hearts, from the beginning, where we so start, to stare right into the face of death with but only your fine hearts.

But for the greater good, as only they could . . . There's Company in Heaven . . . it's getting crowded up here! As the Lord our Father, welcomes these fine warriors in all of his tears!

And if I ever have a son, I but hope and pray and so wish . . . that he could but be like all of these fine ones!

Yeah, There's Company in Heaven . . . New Angels up here! Ready for this new battle which appears!

And when there comes a gentle rain . . . your sons' tears of love shall wash down upon you to so ease all of your pain . . . Until, one day up in Heaven . . . you will all so meet again! And you won't have to cry no more . . . FAOY.

LIST OF THE LIMA COMPANY FALLEN

Lance Corporal Timothy M. Bell, Jr.; Lance Corporal Eric J. Bernholtz; Corporal Dustin A. Derga; Lance Corporal Nicholas B. Erdy; Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids; Sergeant David N. Wimberg; Lance Corporal Michael J. Cifuentes; Lance Corporal Christopher J. Dyer; Lance Corporal Jonathan W. Grant; Sergeant David Kenneth J. Kreuter; Lance Corporal Jourdan L. Grez; Private First Class Christopher R. Dixon.

Lance Corporal Christopher P. Lyons; Staff Sergeant Anthony L. Goodwin; Petty Officer 3rd Class Travis Youngblood; Sergeant Jus-

tin F. Hoffman; Staff Sergeant Kendall H. Ivy II; Lance Corporal Nicholas William B. Bloem; Corporal Andre L. Williams; Lance Corporal Grant B. Fraser; Lance Corporal Aaron H. Reed; Lance Corporal Edward A. Schroeder II; Lance Corporal William B. Wightman.

HONORING MATTHEW AARON GATES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Aaron Gates of Platte City, Missouri. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Aaron Gates for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF INDEPENDENCE AT HOME ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Independence at Home Act. I am pleased to introduce this important legislation today with my colleagues in the House, Representatives. CHRIS SMITH (R-NJ) and RAHM EMANUEL (D-IL), and my colleagues in the Senate, Senators RON WYDEN (D-OR), BARBARA MIKULSKI (D-MD), BENJAMIN CARDIN (D-MD) and SHELDON WHITEHOUSE (D-RI).

Our legislation is designed to improve the quality of care received by a particularly vulnerable portion of the Medicare population—beneficiaries with multiple chronic and debilitating diseases, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, ALS, diabetes and other conditions. Medicare beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions account for a disproportionate share of Medicare spending compared to their representation in the overall Medicare population. Specifically, CMS reports that each year, 10 percent of the Medicare population accounts for two-thirds of all Medicare fee-for-service program payments. Because this population sees an average of 13 physicians and fills about 50 prescriptions per year, beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions often receive disjointed care from health providers, including conflicting information and multiple diagnoses for the same symptoms.

The Independence at Home Act addresses the critical needs of these patients, for whom coordinated care has the greatest potential to achieve positive results. Through the creation